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WEATHER FOR SALT LAKE.

Cloudy.

THE METALS.

Silver, 69 1/2 per ounce.
Copper (cast), 24 1/2 per pound.
Lead, 8 1/2 per 100 pounds.

PASS THIS BILL.

Pending in the senate is a measure which, if passed, will make it possible to levy a tax of one-third of a mill for public library purposes in Salt Lake City, instead of one-fourth of a mill, the present limit. The measure is to come up for action, either favorable or unfavorable, tomorrow. It seems hardly necessary for The Herald to say that it is heartily in favor of the bill. The addition amounts to one-twelfth of a mill.

The assessed valuation of Salt Lake City is approximately \$40,000,000. The increase of one-twelfth of a mill would yield the library about \$3,200. The estimated population is 50,000, so that the increased tax would amount to a little more than 4 cents per capita. That doesn't seem like a great deal of money, viewed from the standpoint of even the most indigent. A very large majority of the population will spend more than that foolishly every day. And yet it means in the aggregate a great deal for the public library.

Of course it isn't fair to fix taxation on a per capita basis, for the very obvious reason that some people pay out very much more money in taxes than others. But if you pay taxes on assessed valuation of \$100,000 the increased library tax would cost you \$8.45. If you pay taxes on a million it would cost you \$83.50. More, if you are worth \$100,000 or over you can very well afford to stand this small increase in your annual contribution to the running expenses of the municipal government. And if you are worth only \$100 you are still able to do your part by the library.

In all the city there is no more important institution. It is the greatest factor, aside from the schools themselves, in the education of the boys and girls of the community. The public library makes it possible for men and women to educate themselves, to keep abreast of the times, to study history and literature and art. The city would be immensely poorer if there were no public library.

And ever since the library was moved to the handsome new quarters made possible by the generosity of John Q. Packard it has been hampered by a lack of funds. With the limited means at the disposal of the directors it has been impossible to maintain this institution as it should be maintained. In the children's department, for example, there are only 2,500 volumes for 15,000 children of school age. If the increase asked is granted the public library will become an even greater factor than it has been in the uplifting of Salt Lake's citizenship.

And in comparison with the benefits all of us will derive, how little is the individual cost.

THE KUROPATKIN HISTORY.

General Kuropatkin's history of the Russo-Japanese war is an interesting contribution. Kuropatkin was in a better position than anyone else to know the real reasons for the defeat of the Russians. Generally speaking, the whole world knew that the Russian cause was lost because of the inefficiency of the czar's officers, because of inability to get men and supplies to the front in proper shape and, most of all, because the army lacked the esprit du corps, the devoted, passionate love of country that all soldiers should have when they fight under the banner of their native land.

Kuropatkin assigns all these as reasons, and he adds some details that are new. Among them is the failure of generals placed great reliance, to obey orders at crucial moments. He points out that if Kaulbars had followed the instructions that were given him his defense of Mukden might have been successful. Instead of being an inglorious failure. But Kuropatkin does not place all the blame for the Mukden defeat upon the shoulders of Kaulbars. Some of it he assumes himself in the statement that he did not insist sufficiently on a strong reserve force to be used at the decisive moment.

After all is said and done, though, the fact remains that the Russian cause was hopeless almost from the outset. There was a great army of men incompetently officered, poorly supplied with food, poorly equipped with the paraphernalia of war, without love of coun-

try. Against them was an army commanded by men of the most exceptional military talent, an army that lacked nothing the knowledge of the art of war could secure for it, an army in which every soldier was willing, even anxious, to die for his country.

Of course the Russians lost. No country that cannot command the devotion of its citizens can hope to win a conflict in which the opposing forces approximate equality. In the beginning of the Russo-Japanese conflict the Russians apparently had every advantage. In men, in money, in ships, viewed from the merely numerical standpoint, the Japanese were far outclassed. It looked as if they would be crushed before the war had progressed sixty days. But the Japs were not crushed, and this was so both because they were willing to fight and because they knew how to fight.

They showed the world that a little man who knows how to shoot a rifle, and who is not afraid to die, has a tremendous advantage over a big man who does not know how to shoot and who stands in mortal fear of death.

PUBLICITY OF ACCIDENTS.

Julius Kruttschnitt, director of operations for the Harriman systems, has suggested that full publicity in all accidents would restrict the carelessness of employees and limit the number of accidents on railroads. The idea is a good one, not only because of the effect publicity would have upon railroad men generally, but because it would go far to abate the antagonism of the public toward such railroads as make a business of suppressing news of accidents.

Newspaper men, who naturally have most to do with reports of collisions and other accidents, particularly where casualties are involved, know that it is most difficult on some systems to secure any information at all. Part of this, as the railroad men themselves would admit, is to prevent knowledge of trouble from reaching the heads of the road in detail as well as to minimize in the public mind the impression of carelessness in operating departments. As a matter of fact, such reticence only magnifies the disaster, since the public invariably believes the worst if it thinks the company officials are trying to conceal anything. On the other hand, such roads as have tried the experiment have found that they are treated with absolute fairness and the public is perfectly satisfied if reports of casualties and other details of accidents are made public promptly and fully.

Some years ago the Burlington officials in Chicago made a departure from what had been the practice of all the Chicago roads, and issued instructions to operating officials that the press should have access to the official reports of every accident. The immediate result was a confidence in the road and a friendliness on the part of the press and public that proved the wisdom of the plan.

Not only is publicity a protection from carelessness in employees, but it is a check upon mis-statements by sensationalists, a guarantee of a desire to protect its patrons that reflects favorably upon the railroad following such a policy. It pays in more efficient service, and it pays in the added good will which is so large a part of every first-class railroad's assets.

HIGH SCHOOL FRATERNITIES.

Principal Eaton of the High school has pronounced against fraternities and suspended thirteen boys who refuse to comply with his decision. Mr. Eaton is right, and the boys are making two mistakes, one in defying school discipline and the other in thinking a fraternity in the public schools is worth all the fuss they are making about it.

When college days come and the boy has reached some degree of discretion it is another matter, but at high school age the secrecy of a fraternity, its tendency toward caste distinctions and its encroachment on the pupil's time all affect the efficiency of the school and its general morale. The refusal of these boys to submit to the principal's judgment and subordinate themselves to his discipline is of itself evidence that they fail to understand and appreciate the real purpose of the school. Discussion of the question is one thing, refusal to accept the verdict is another, and even if Mr. Eaton were disposed to consider the question further he could not afford to do so while the boys maintain their insubordinate attitude.

THE AMERICAN DREADNAUGHT.

Representative Burton of Ohio made a strong fight against the appropriation in the naval bill for an American battleship of the type of Great Britain's Dreadnaught, but he lost. The big fighting machine is to be built, and it is easy to believe that a great majority of the American people will be glad of it. None of us likes the idea of Great Britain being ahead of us on any proposition. The fact that the efficiency of a battleship such as the Dreadnaught has never been tested does not count for anything.

We will proceed to invest ten or eleven millions of dollars in a vessel that may go to the bottom like a stone through the explosion of a sneaking little torpedo. And with her may go to watery graves some thousands of American sailors and marines. But we are not looking forward to any such catastrophe. By all means let us have the big fighting unit, to the end that we may proudly point to it and say there is none bigger or better in the wide, wide world. Also to the end that we may use it to frighten the nations of the earth out of any notion they may entertain of their ability to whip us.

Mr. Burton spoke of the increased cost of our navy, an increase that makes the total annual expenditure five times as great as it was twenty years ago. He declared that there is not a war cloud on the horizon, that the mod-

ern tendency is not toward increased armament, but toward disarmament. He pointed out the fact that the sentiment for arbitration of international disputes has grown tremendously in recent years and that the time seems near now when war and its attendant horrors will be but an unpleasant memory.

It was a good talk that Mr. Burton made, but the house of representatives was not convinced by it. President Roosevelt must have his big stick. Without it he would not be the picturesque character he is. Roosevelt would be like a leading actor with a thinking part. His chest measurement would shrink terribly and his strut would degenerate into a sham.

Seriously, though, there is a glamour about the navy that makes all Americans want to see it maintained at the highest standard of efficiency, regardless of the cost. The history of the navy forms one of the brightest chapters in all our history. From John Paul Jones to George Dewey, from the Bonhomme Richard to the Oregon, all of our fighting men and fighting ships have risen grandly to their country's need. More power to the navy. May it always be used for displays of peace, but may it always be ready for war.

CITY GOVERNMENT BILL.

Some of the citizens of Ogden who have been pondering the Galveston system seem to have gathered the impression that the adoption of the system would place the appointment of city officers in the hands of the government. They have confused the Salt Lake measure with the proposed fee and police commission bill which originated with Callister, Spry, Hull and others of the Republican machine, and which is intended to give the fire and police departments of cities into the custody of the governor, advised by the originators of the scheme.

The so-called Galveston bills, which have passed the senate, make no change in the method of nominating and electing city officials of Salt Lake. On the contrary, by limiting the number of nominations and concentrating authority in the hands of a few men, the plan would produce greater care both in nominating conventions and in the vote at the polls.

Instead of five ward conventions and a city convention, there would be only one convention, and that would nominate only four officials—three commissioners and an auditor. There could be little of the promiscuous trading which now characterizes the ward and city conventions, because there would be so few offices to fill, and the men chosen would be selected by the whole city, instead of by various sections of the city.

The simplification of government is one of the chief advantages of the Galveston plan, and this simplification extends to the nominating conventions as well as to the administration of city affairs. There is no doubt but that the people of Salt Lake demand an improvement in both regards, nor is there much question but that the Galveston plan would effect a betterment whether it achieves all its framers hope for it or not. A business man under the same conditions would not hesitate to adopt such a plan, nor should the legislature hesitate to give Salt Lake what it asks.

The ex-soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry continue to assert that the citizens of Brownsville shot each other and were guilty of all the rioting that resulted in the discharge of the soldiers without honor. They'll tell that tale singly and in concert so often that they'll begin to believe it themselves. But they won't get anybody else to believe it, except, perhaps, Senator Foraker, and it wouldn't be very safe to bet that he believes it.

Julius Kruttschnitt, director of maintenance and operation for the Harriman lines, believes that complete publicity might be a preventive of railroad accidents. Wonder if Mr. Kruttschnitt will now give orders to all employees under him to give the newspapers the fullest details of any wrecks that may occur on the lines he controls. That would indeed be a new departure.

The Kansas senate barred representatives of a Kansas City paper from its floor or press gallery. Do those asses think they will thereby prevent that paper from getting and printing all the news about them, and then some?

If Abraham Lincoln was really responsible for all the stories that are credited to him on or about the anniversary of his birth, we don't see how he ever found time to be president of these United States.

The Colorado senator who was expelled for accepting a bribe says he can't understand it. Well, the senators who voted for his expulsion can, and if he can't he had no business in the senate, anyway.

The rich people of France are making a desperate fight to escape paying income taxes. Let us hope they will not be as successful as the opponents of the American income tax law were some years ago.

The report that President Roosevelt or somebody for him agreed to retain Smoot in exchange for Utah's electoral vote seems to have traveled as far as South Carolina.

Some people are overly fond of holding post mortems. Now Senator Rayner of Maryland is threatening to reopen the Sampson-Schley controversy.

The attention of the local street railway management is respectfully called to the fact that an Illinois street railway line has put on sleeping cars.

HOW LAWYERS WHO ARE BATTLING IN THE THAW CASE COMPARE

(Norman, in Boston Post.)

This \$100,000 counsel for Harry Thaw, Delphin M. Delmas, appears to be earning his salary since he took the reins out of Attorney Gleason's hands and said: "If you don't let me run this case I'll quit."

Delmas is California's star criminal lawyer. He has the reputation of never losing a case. He is a native of the Golden Gate, and believes that this will be another feat to the laurel wreath that will encircle the bald head which nature has bestowed on top of his unique head.

Mr. Delmas is a fatherly looking man in appearance, his well-to-do look, an excellent command of language, is an orator, is possessed of a face that causes the witness to feel at ease even when opposed to the client who is so munificently rewarding the distinguished counsel.

I had the pleasure of listening to a sample of the silver-tongued oratory of Mr. Delmas in St. Louis, at the last Democratic national convention, when, with fiery eloquence not surpassed by any of the other superb orators of that night, he placed before the convention the platform of the William Randolph Hearst for president.

In court he modulates his rich and resonant voice to suit the limited surroundings, for this courtroom is very small, with a capacity of probably 200 seats.

Delmas has perfect command of his vocal powers, knows just when to put on the horsepower, when to be persuasive, when to be ministerial, and when to adopt the tone of a lawyer which fits so well his genial countenance.

All these marks of the true orator Delmas possesses to a very marked degree. It is to this versatility of genius that he owes his success, and it is which it must require to copy intimate the stupendous price which he is accorded with receiving for his part of the drama now being played to crowded houses in New York city.

Most anyone could be frightened at \$100,000 a parental strain. I know of many great legal lights in Boston who agree to split and burn all night with their families for a big mark down on the quoted figure.

Not a Bargain Trial.

But, then, this is no bargain trial. It cost a bare cent of money to furnish the prisoner, and if he is acquitted, as every one that I have talked to and overheard seems to think he will be, it will be a cheaply bought at the big figure. Everything is done on a big scale over in Gotham, anyway.

I remember while I attended the Lizzy Borden trial several years ago that the fee rumored to have been given to ex-Governor Robinson for his part in acquitting Miss Borden was \$50,000, and that was high in those days, even for a big mystery case.

However, times have progressed since the Borden days, and we must blame the increased cost of being acquitted to the phenomenal prosperity of the nation. Delmas is polite to a marked degree, not of the Alphonse-Gaston order, but rather of the Moran-O'Meara type, and during the preliminary stages of their recent literary quarrel.

That Delmas is a man of keen legal acumen is evidence by the broad scope of the defense he has conducted in the case, every known defense except an alibi being used.

In such a campaign Delmas ought to keep Jerome guessing. Emotional insanity, a minute, permanent insanity the next, unwritten law, self-defense, eccentric letter writing, etc.

Through them all the alert Mr. Delmas glides easily like a humming bird from flower to flower.

Delmas reminds me very much of the late Colonel Hay, handwriting expert in the Tucker case, suave, smooth, brilliant and just as he was headed for the much-advertised Jerome Delmas looks confident.

Jerome Lacks the Teeth.

In profile William Travers Jerome strongly resembles President Roosevelt, and that may be why he shows his profile to the auditors in this trial so frequently and the fuller view so seldom, in contrast. Ranking next to the president and that, of course, removes a vast amount of expression from his countenance when he is in action.

The district attorney has the snappy bulldog chin of the distinguished San Juan hero, but his face is much thinner when one gets it in full view.

Over here in New York they characterize as feline legal tactics, and they describe him as rubbing with witnesses as the cat with the mouse.

He did this with Dr. Wiley, the insanity expert, a few days ago—worried him, patted him gently with cross-examination, and then, as if by magic, the "extinguished" alienist with the legal world that added much to the waning reputation of Jerome.

It was only recently that the press was adopting the same feline tactics, with Jerome playing the mouse.

But in the case of Jerome the conflict appears to be reversed. After being worried and lambasted for months by the scorching heat of the press, Jerome has really waked up and routed the cats with his genuine ability.

If this case is successful from a prosecuting standpoint, it will bring Jerome well into the limelight again to stay.

KEPT PLEDGE TO HIGHWAY

Lord Stanhope's "Loan" Foundation of London Magnate's Wealth.

The fourth earl of Stanhope, when on his homeward way one dark night, was held up by the most gentlemanly of highwaymen, who presented his request for money, and the nobleman, of quite the nicest way. It happened that Lord Stanhope had not any money with him, and was disinclined to yield to the alms.

DOG CAUGHT BURNING FUSE.

Picked Up Stick of Dynamite and Chased Master Through Woods.

(Chicago Tribune.)

That one's best friend is at times likely to be his ruination is no better exemplified than in my own case, wherein, while hunting in British Columbia, with no other companion than my faithful dog, I came nearer to losing my life than ever before or since. I was in camp with some of my friends near the little town of Moyle and on the shore of the lake of the same name. One seldom finds so perfect a spot for all kinds of wild game and at the same time the waters are inhabited by the gamest fish that ever angler trolled for.

One bright afternoon, with my dog, I went some distance in a small Indian canoe and anchored at a point where instinct told me schools of pickeree might gather.

I threw out two lines and, picking up the anchor, began to tow up and down the little bay, but without any startling results. I was convinced there were plenty of fish in this part of the lake and could not understand why they did not come to the bait. In some patience I waited for a while. My canine companion, always with his eye on the "bobber," seemed tired also of watching the corker riding the small fish, and he began to look for himself as the true fisherman likes to have them fade out of view. I hauled in my lines and rowed the canoe back to the camp.

It would be more than an hour before the other members of the camping party would return, and I much disliked to quit for the afternoon without even a single trophy, so I hit upon another and entirely different plan. I decided to force things.

I had often heard of exploding sticks of dynamite in the water as a means of catching large quantities of fish in short time, and no sooner had the idea occurred to me than I was off for the town to equip myself with enough dynamite for the experiment. I secured several large sticks and hastened back to the camp, where I began operations.

To each stick of the explosive was attached a long fuse, so constructed that one could drop the dynamite twenty or thirty feet into the water, light the fuse and the fire would creep down through a powder-filled tube, through the water to the stick of dynamite at the bottom.

My first experiment I decided to conduct from the shore, so the dog could have a chance to run behind a big bowlder after lighting the fuse to escape injury. So I tied the shore end of the fuse to a stake, lighted it and threw the stick of explosive as far into the water as the fuse would permit.

No sooner had I thrown it than my dog, true to an old habit, leaped into the water and swam to the point where the stick of explosive sank out of sight.

I was almost stricken with fright. There was but one course, and that to retreat. I ran like a rabbit, and gazing backward saw my spaniel running toward me with the fuse in his mouth and dragging the stick of dynamite, little more than a man's length from where he held the fuse in his teeth.

The fuse was burning with great rapidity, the dog instinct on keeping up with me and a terrible explosion was imminent. Suddenly, with great presence of mind, I picked up a stick of dynamite and threw it toward the lake the dynamite exploded the moment he passed over it and blew the poor animal into atoms.

Thrown violently to the ground by the force of the explosion and gas, all but killed. I believe I have never fully recovered from the shock.

BELIEF OF THE BUDDHISTS.

Chief End of Man is Held to Be Nirvana or Non-existence.

Burma is the home of the purest form of Buddhism, the religion which some once thought originated in a blundering attempt to copy the Christian religion, so striking are the many points of resemblance, says the New York Tribune. At the same time there are many things about this religion that seem odd to the Occidental mind because of their striking contrast with the tenets of Christianity in point of numbers. It is now known to be older, the supposed date of its foundation being fixed at about the middle of the sixth century B. C. It might be termed an ascetic religion, for it recognizes no God, no heaven, no hell, no reward or punishment. The founder of the religion, according to the Buddhist books, was a prince named Siddhartha, son of a petty rajah of the district of Nepal. He was a person of contemplative, ascetic disposition. His father, anxious to prevent him from deserting his high station and taking to a religious life, married him to a beautiful princess and surrounded him with all the splendors of which the mind could conceive.

It was of no avail. Siddhartha continued to think of all the evils to which life is heir and of ways of evading them. He had his long hair, the mark of his high caste, cut off as a sign of his severance from all secular ties. The shortened hair turned up, and, there, his images represent his hair as curly.

After much thought upon the subject of old age, misery and death, he reached the logical conclusion that if one was not born one would not suffer the ills of life. He reached the further conclusion that ignorance is the ultimate cause of existence. Therefore, if a man becomes wise he will have fewer and fewer desires as his wisdom grows, and his repeated reincarnations will approach nearer and nearer to the goal of non-existence, nirvana, or complete obliteration.

According to the manner of a person's life, when he died he would be reincarnated in a higher or lower form of life, birth being only a passage from one form of existence to another. In each form of existence the being had an opportunity to struggle toward perfect wisdom and annihilation.

Siddhartha was said to have attained his perfect wisdom, his final triumph, one night while sitting under a tree about five miles from Gaya, near Patna, India. It is said that this tree, known as the bo tree, or tree of wisdom, was standing 1,200 years later, or in the seventh century. A young tree now stands in its place. Oddly, while Buddhism originated in India and spread all over Asia, the monastery at Gaya is the only home of the faith in India proper.

"Buddha" is a title applied to Siddhartha in his state of perfection. It means "enlightened," or "he to whom truth is known." The worship of Buddha, who is supposed to be non-existent, having attained nirvana, is really the veneration of a memory.

SILENCE IS GOLDEN.

(Columbia Journal.)

Tabbs-Say, of me, that was a fine old man, but I didn't say a word. Tabbs-Say, of me, that was a fine old man, but I didn't say a word. Tabbs-Say, of me, that was a fine old man, but I didn't say a word.

WORLD FULL OF GOLD.

It Falls From the Sky and Sloshes Up From the Sea.

(Moody's Magazine.)

The world's gold supply is absolutely inexhaustible, no matter what demands are made upon it. Hitherto the attention of miners has been entirely directed to comparatively rich, easily worked deposits. But it has to be remembered that gold in small quantities occurs in enormous masses of rock throughout the world.

Almost all volcanic rocks and the formations derived from them, such as granite, serpentine and rhyolite, contain appreciable quantities of gold, and vast deposits of sedimentary rocks derived from such volcanic formations contain gold in concentrated form, and are today in some localities profitably worked.

Profit is and always has been the incentive to gold production. Should there ever be need for working the volcanic and sedimentary rocks that are auriferous the means of profitably working them will be found.

Experiments have shown that gold is readily falling to the earth, in association with cosmic dust, and day and night settles all over the land and sea. Some of this gold, when concentrated by wind and water, or dissolved by acid rain, is said to be recoverable.

The waters of the sea, also, are auriferous, and there can be little doubt that if ever in the remote future there should be an extraordinary demand for gold, means could be found for profitably reducing the gold in the seawater.

The area of the sea bed is much larger than that of the land. Its composition is similar in every respect with that of the land. It is composed of mountains, plains and plateaus; of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks which contain great areas of gold-bearing and other mineral veins. Only in the case of the latter, however, where the submarine gold fields are close to the land will it be possible to work them as the submarine coal fields are now worked. But those oceanic gold fields which are situated far out at the surface are subject to constant attrition by the waves. This causes the shedding of gold, which is concentrated by the sea and washed ashore.

Gold deposits of this kind exist in many countries and they are remarkable in that they are renewed or enriched by almost every storm that passes over them. These deposits are known by various names, but the term auriferous beach sand sufficiently describes them. They occur in the Pacific beaches, from Alaska to Terra del Fuego, and throughout the coast of Australia and New Zealand. They have long been worked with profitable results.

The gold output from the gold-bearing beaches at Nome, Alaska, this year is expected to reach \$4,000,000. The coast between Cape Nome and Point Rodney for a distance of more than twenty miles is being worked for gold by hundreds of men.

The beaches in places auriferous for a width of 2,000 feet inland from the tide level and sometimes to a depth of fifty feet. From the western base of Cape Nome there is a series of gravelly beaches extending inland several miles, which contain auriferous sands in places being worked today. These marine deposits yielded gold to the value of \$2,300,000 in 1903, \$2,185,000 in 1904 and \$2,550,000 in 1905.

The earth has also immense deposits of auriferous sands and clays. These are chiefly in the arid regions. In many countries they are profitably worked by dry blowing, and more can be done so.

But experiments in Australia have shown that much of the gold can be extracted in these cases by a special adaptation of gold dredging known as the sucking process. These deposits are formed by the erosion of auriferous rock formations and the concentration of the gold by the action of wind and rain.

COUGAR AFRAID OF MAN.

Not a Brave Beast and Wrongly Regarded as Dangerous.

(Sports Afield.)

Regarding the cougar, the largest member of the feline family in the United States, it may be said that it is blessed with more than a rightful share of names. In one section it is the panther, somewhere else it is termed mountain lion, in another locality it is called by a name which the backwoodsman will tell you blood-curdling stories of the painter. In northwestern Washington it is generally spoken of as the cougar.

The writer, who has spent with rifle and trap, has hunted and killed these animals in their native haunts, and can bear witness to one truth regarding them all—wherever found or under whatever name, their habits are identical.

Among many people—and this includes those who should know better—this animal is looked upon as very dangerous. Avoins-ingling stories are told of the cougar "springing" from a rocky ledge or an overhanging tree and ending the hapless wayfarer passing beneath. These anecdotes have been heard by all and believed by many, nor will I deny that such things may have occurred, but it is safe to say that practically all these stories are exaggerated and many of them are downright lies.

Thirty years ago, in company with an old and experienced frontiersman, I was shooting deer, elk and bear and selling the meat to a gang of tie-cutters in the Rocky mountains. Cougars were more abundant than I have ever elsewhere; yet it was perfectly safe to roam the woods at will. Rolled in my blankets, I have passed many a night watching the passing and going of the big tree without once a fire to scare these animals away.

I was never attacked by one unless it was cornered or perhaps so badly wounded as to be unable to get away. Under these conditions nearly all animals will fight.

The cougar, when followed by the hunter on foot, will often double on its tail, make a long loop and hide until its pursuer has passed, and then perhaps take the back track for miles. It will chase the man with the gun comes along, still hanging to the trail, and discovers where the animal lay upon some overhanging rock from which it was once so disposed. It might have been upon its enemy and torn him to shreds, or perhaps behind a log, under a bush, or in a hole, or in a peephole. There are many more instances of the haunts of these animals who have never seen a cougar except in a trap. All the large cats are afraid of mankind, and retire quietly at the approach of their enemy.

THE NERVE OF HIM!

(Houston Post.)

"Mr. Sloppy, I understand you have said that nothing could be more unsatisfactory than a meal at my table?" said the landlady.

"I said that, but I have changed my mind."

MAKING THE THUNDER.

Tempest, With Lightning and Wind Emulated by Apparatus.

When the snow went up instead of down in the winter scene of a Colorado illusion show recently, owing to the blunder of an unskilled operator, the audience laughed and the effect was lost. Nevertheless, as the New York Sun, the latter-day illusion show is convincing.

Where a couple of years ago twenty-five to thirty men were needed to operate a big illusion now a half dozen will suffice. Stationed in front of a gigantic switchboard covered with hundreds of levers, three or four men control the many contrivances. Nearly every part of the complex scene is manipulated by hand, such as, steamboats, that moves across the scene, instead of being drawn by a stage hand, is under the direct management of the operator. These pieces are all set on wheels and run along tiny rails. The scene is equipped with an electric motor of small power, the current is communicated through the rails, and thus the piece can be accurately guided to the desired point.

The numberless parts of scenery are likewise governed from the operator's platform.

New schemes are invented every year to perfect the illusions. The "thunder car" is an example. The car is a heavy truck weighing about 150 pounds, equipped with four wheels, each of which is corrugated. This vehicle runs on a track of rails, which extends across the building, a distance of forty feet. At either end of the car is fastened a cable, which runs on a set of pulleys underneath from one end of the runway to the other, and at each end is a motor.

As the car runs back and forth along this roadway of planking the corrugated wheels give forth a rumbling noise, somewhat similar to that of a vehicle crossing a bridge, but multiplied a hundred times in volume. The car is directed by the operator, who can cause it to travel to and fro as rapidly as he wishes. The sound created closely resembles thunder.